

# THE GARDEN ISLAND

Issued Every Tuesday Morning

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## The June 11 Program

As we understand the matter the idea behind the program to be set on at Honolulu June 10-12 is to revive in a measure the past glory of Kamehameha Day.

There are doubtless those among us who feel that we have enough holidays as it is. But as a matter of fact, have we? Do we give enough time to fairs and programs that are essentially for the amusement and entertainment of the public? Perhaps we do not, and if we did we would add much to our own pleasure in living and encourage the enjoyment experienced by the visitor to our shores.

If we are correctly informed, there is nothing in this move to retrace the sports and festivities of the former "June 11" that would detract from the February carnival which has been so successfully built up at Honolulu. If such there was we would hesitate with our thumbs; but we can plainly see that there is room and occasion and opportunity for both.

All old residents will remember the time distinctly when "June 11", as it was called, was the greatest holiday occasion of the year. At Honolulu it was given over largely to horse racing—the sport of Kings; which throngs of people from the islands attended and enjoyed. It was the experience of years that the weather at that time was ideal for outdoor sports, and favorable circumstances generally seemed to surround the day.

Restore "June 11"? Why, surely. For many decades it has been the one distinctly Hawaiian holiday, and we want to see its just glory returned to it.

We hope that Kauai people will bear in mind this effort to reconstitute the interest that formerly clung to Kamehameha Day, and will join to the limit the two excursion steamers that will leave our ports for the June 10-12 program in the city.

## Larger Hotel Needed

If there ever was a place in need of larger hotel accommodations, that place is Waimea, Kauai, Territory of Hawaii.

There is a very excellent little hotel there now. It is so good, in fact, that it is full of boarders all the time and there is on an average a room for only six transients. Every steamer "swamps" the hotel, and even over-Sunday callers from other Kauai towns start Manager "Dick" Oliver off around the place in search of bunks at private houses for his overflow of customers.

Only a few mornings ago several passengers landed at Nawiliwili and went overland to Waimea. Arriving there at about 4 o'clock in the morning, tired and wanting good, soft beds most of all else in this world, they found the place already filled to its capacity. There wasn't a room nor a bed nor a cot nor even a sofa to be had for love nor money. Manager Oliver fished up some mattresses from somewhere and finally accommodated his tired guests on the floor of the verandah, with its dampness, cold morning air and mosquitoes.

This is a serious matter and something should be done to remedy it. It is giving Kauai almost as black an eye as the nickel-in-the-slot scheme of the local telephone company. Waimea should have a new and greatly enlarged hotel, and it cannot come too soon.

## The Waste Of Homesteads

One of the ever present problems in Hawaii is that surrounding the ultimate disposal of the government lands—lands belonging to all the people. Year after year these lands have dwindled. Until a few years ago most of the land taken up by homesteaders quickly passed into the hands of one of the sugar plantations, if the land was cane land, and under present conditions only cane land is of any permanent agricultural value outside of the Kona district. Recently a law has been placed in the Organic Act which prohibits the sale of any homestead land to anyone already holding more than eighty acres of land. Yet this clause has not prevented certain men on the island of Oahu from securing many valuable tracts of land, nor others from acquiring land which they desire and are willing to pay for.

There are a number of thinking men in the Territory who believe that it might be better for the Territory to hold the land it has now, except in special cases where there is a good chance for small farming to be made a success, and lease this land to the sugar plantations at such a price that it will bring into the treasury of the Territory a continuous revenue, which could be spent upon permanent public improvements. In this way all the people would derive some benefit from these lands.

At the present there seems little opportunity for the small farmer to make more than a living, even if he be able to keep out of debt. There are already a considerable number of homestead farms growing fine crops of weeds on this island. It is a waste of land, a waste of revenue and a waste of effort to open more homesteads without some guarantee that they will be actually farmed successfully by the farmers themselves. This renting to sugar plantations, which do all the work, is not homesteading.—Hilo Tribune.

THE FOURTH INFANTRY can undoubtedly be depended upon to make a great day of July Fourth in Lihue. It seems to us, however, that military features and sports will leave a notable blank in the program. Without the reading of the Declaration of Independence, the singing of a few national hymns and one good, patriotic address it will not seem fully up to the mark of a Fourth of July celebration. It seems to us that the day should be given all the frills that properly belong to it.

THE HONOLULU PAPERS are publishing more or less boastfully tables indicating the very large dividends which may be paid by the plantations this year. We question the wisdom of this, coming as it does on the heels of a campaign for tariff in order that the sugar business might exist at all. Dividends to be paid this year will come as the direct result of the war, a cause which is temporary at best; and to our mind the least said about them in the public prints the better.

LORD CASEMENT now claims that he was insane when he shipped arms into Ireland with which to start a revolution. Napoleon, we assume, had a streak of the same thing when he started out to kill a few of his country's neighbors.

IF THE REPORT be true that Hughes will not accept the nomination unless given the unanimous endorsement of the convention, Roosevelt is already practically nominated as the Republican standard bearer in the coming election.

THE BATTALION parades and inspections planned by Colonel Broadbent will give the Kauai public a chance to witness maneuvers by larger bodies of our citizen soldiery. This is a step toward the regimental review which will take place July Fourth.

FORD CARS are reputed to be able to stand some pretty tough roads, but it is no joke to say that Henry Ford will find the road of politics impossible going.

THE FOURTH INFANTRY will require a United States flag and regimental colors. This is a tip for the ladies of Kauai.

IT WOULD APPEAR that the Root boom has climbed the tree and fizzled out at the top.

NO MAN'S JUDGMENT about the safety of Nuanunu dam is worth a shriveled fig. Anyhow, the question is not properly up for argument. The reservoir behind the dam is the sore point. A large reservoir should never have been built in Nuanunu valley and should be done away with as quickly as possible. Numerous small reservoirs might serve the purpose and prove safe; but any large reservoir project, if absolutely necessary, should be located at the Koolau side of the Pali, the water being piped through from there to Honolulu.

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